



Security Council

Distr.
GENERALS/1996/666
16 August 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 AUGUST 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to document S/1996/603 and Corr.1, concerning the simplification of the list of matters of which the Security Council is seized (rule 11 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council). The Republic of the Sudan would like to express its concern about the above-mentioned document and particularly about the Security Council's decision mentioned therein, which leads to the automatic deletion as of 15 September 1996 of matters which have not been considered by the Council in the preceding five years.

In this context the Government of the Sudan would like to express the following:

First: The strongest possible objection of the Government of the Sudan to the deletion of item No. 8 of the annex to document S/1996/603, namely, the letter dated 20 February 1958 from the representative of the Sudan addressed to the Security Council. This item was discussed for the first time at the 812th meeting of the Council on 21 February 1958. Concerning the same issue, seven subsequent letters from the concerned parties were addressed to the Security Council and were issued as official documents (S/25041, dated 31 December 1992; S/25051, dated 3 January 1993; S/25090, dated 11 January 1993; S/25095, dated 12 January 1993; S/25127, dated 18 January 1993; S/25925, dated 25 May 1993; and S/25926, dated 3 June 1993), the last letter having been issued three years ago.

The issue is of great importance to the Sudan and is still a question of major concern. The same circumstances and reasons which prompted the Sudan to bring the subject to the attention of the Security Council in the first place still persist. Therefore the Sudan requests that this issue be retained until the question is resolved.

Second: No item should be deleted from the matters of which the Security Council is seized without prior consultations with and the consent of



the concerned country or countries. Moreover, Members of the United Nations should be consulted prior to the establishment of any criterion by the Council on which such important decisions are taken. It is politically inadvisable to eliminate certain selected items from the matters of which the Security Council is seized on the criterion of their not having been discussed by the Council for the preceding five years. The subjects which are usually brought to the attention of the Council are of a politically sensitive nature; therefore their deletion on the basis of a criterion unilaterally established by the Council may result in serious implications.

Third: The Security Council's decision, mentioned in paragraph 2 of document S/1996/603, is not a formal decision. It was not taken at any formal meeting of the Council. Therefore the Sudan believes that this decision has no legal standing.

Fourth: The retention of matters for only one year, if a Member of the United Nations objects before 15 September 1996 to its deletion, is another new criterion introduced in this matter without prior consultations with the Members of the United Nations. Therefore the Sudan requests that all items be retained indefinitely, if a Member of the United Nations presents its objections to the Security Council proposal for its deletion.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elfatih M. ERWA
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of the Sudan



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LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 1996 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I have the honour to refer to the note by the President of the Security Council on the simplification of the list of matters of which the Council is seized (S/1996/603 and Corr.1).

I should like to convey the Committee's objection to the decision to delete from the list items related to the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the Palestine question and the Middle East problem, which are of utmost concern not only to the Committee but also to the majority of member States. The Committee believes that pending a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East, the core of which is the question of Palestine, in accordance with international legitimacy, these items should remain on the list of matters of which the Council is seized, as they continue to engage its responsibility with regard to the maintenance of international peace and security.

I should also like to express the Committee's hope that decisions of such fundamental importance will be taken in thorough consultation with all the parties concerned.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ibra Deguène KA
Chairman
Committee on the Exercise of
the Inalienable Rights of the
Palestinian People





General Assembly
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 43 of the provisional agenda*
THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 16 August 1996 from the Permanent Representative of
Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Rwanda on 8 August 1996 on the imposition of sanctions against Burundi.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of both the General Assembly, under item 43 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session, and the Security Council.

(Signed) Gideon KAYINAMURA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Rwanda
to the United Nations

* A/51/150.

ANNEX

Statement dated 8 August 1996 by the Government of Rwanda
on the imposition of sanctions against Burundi

In accordance with the Arusha Declaration of the Regional Summit held on 31 July 1996, the Government of the Republic of Rwanda has decided to stop with effect from 9 August 1996 road and air links with Burundi.

Steps have to be undertaken by the authorities in Bujumbura to return to the Mwanza peace process and the Arusha peace initiative, under the auspices of Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere. Rwanda regards these initiatives as an appropriate mechanism for guaranteeing peace and security for all the people of Burundi.

Rwanda will closely monitor the evolution of events in Burundi and will collaborate with countries in the region for further measures deemed necessary.

The Government of Rwanda directs all relevant government organs to implement this decision.

(Signed) Dr. Anastase GASANA
Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Cooperation
